

Appl. No. 09/195,333
Amdt. Dated April 11, 2005
Reply to Office action of January 10, 2005
Attorney Docket No. P10149-US1
EUS/J/P/05-3085

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The Internet has become a popular tool for sending and receiving information. In essence, the Internet comprises a worldwide network of communications equipment and service providers, which use a common protocol for communicating. On the Internet, messages are transmitted from one user to another over a vast infrastructure of routers, servers, gateways and other similar devices. Typically, users on either end of the network operate computers equipped with appropriate software, devices and other components. Examples of such components include a modem and Internet browser application. Often, a user establishes a connection to the Internet through an Internet Service Provider (ISP). The underlying link level ~~protocols~~ protocol stacks handle the messaging functions on both ends of the channel.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The central office 58 routes calls placed by the Internet device 50 to an Internet Service Provider (ISP) 102 within the IP network 60 that acts as the entry gateway to the IP network 60 for Internet users. The ISP 102 is the a point of access or node for the Internet device 50 to the IP network 60. Typically the Internet device 50 is assigned an address, which is associated with the user for the duration of an Internet session. The address is utilized by the Internet device 50 to perform basic Internet functions such as sending and receiving e-mail messages through the IP network 60. The IP address assigned is typically of the numeric format [[www.xxx.yyy.zzz]] aa.bb.cc.dd. for example. With most

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common IP addressing schemes, an IP address is not associated with the physical location of the user 50; rather, the IP address provides a handle by which the user 50 can be identified within the IP network 60.